Season 1995-96 as compared to 55.71 lakh tonnes procured against the arrival of 56.55 lakh tonnes of wheat during the corresponding period last year.

Gian Prakash Committee Report

5881. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 281 in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th April, 1995 and also to the Supplementaries asked on Starred Question Nos. 85 and 97 in the House on the 20th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the question of mala fide on the part of any one was referred to and examined by the Gian Prakash Committee;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in "The Times of India" of the 19th December, 1994 under the heading, "Corruption angel not probed: Gian";

(d) if so, what are the facts in this regard; and

(e) under what circumstances Government have come to the conclusion that the Gain Prakash Committee Report does not mention any matter that would create suspicion of mala fide on the part of any one and what are the detials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) A preliminary Administrative enquiry to ascertain and report facts and dix prima facie responsibility for lapsses, if any, in dealing with the situation arising out of shortage in availability of sugar was ordered in July, 1994.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As indicated above, Shri Gain Prakash has conducted a preliminary administrative enquiry and not a public enquiry under the Commission of Enquiries Act. It was not his brief to look into allegations of corruption nor was he an investigating agency to investigate into such charges.

(e) The Government has come to this conclusion after a perusal of the Gain Prakash Committee's Report, a copy of which has already been placed in the Parliament Library.

Committee to examine administrative re-medial measures of Gain Prakash Committee Report

5882. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 97 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th March, 1995 and state:

(a) when the Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary was set up to examine the administrative premedial measures recommended by Shri Gain Prakash Committee and on which date it submitted its report;

(b) what are the details of the recommendations made by Shri Gain Prakash Committee which were examined by this Committee;

(c) what are the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) what action Government have taken on each of its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A copy of the Gain Prakash Committee's Report has been placed in the Parliament Library. The Report makes certain recommendations in dealing with future situations of sugar shortage. These include the need to evolve an integrated policy on all sweeteners, creation of a buffer stock, use of scientific forecasting and estimation methods, improvements in administrative arrangements for monitoring and dealing with sugar shortages and its implementation, keeping sugar under OGL with no duty, etc.